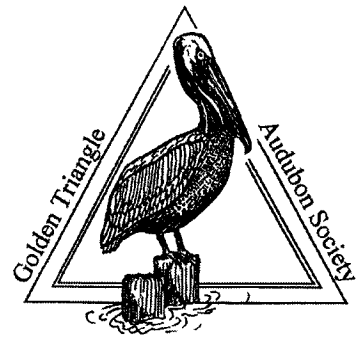


The Brown Pelican



The Newsletter of the Golden Triangle Audubon Society

Vol. 14 No. 6

June 2008

Summer Vacation!

As usual, there will be no membership meetings in June or July. Our next meeting will be on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Garden Center, Tyrrell Park, Beaumont, Texas. The Speaker will be Gina Donovan on some conservation aspects of the Neches River.

The next issue of the *Brown Pelican* will be a combined July/August issue, to be published in early August.

Editorial – Protection and Conservation of Habitat

We do not often use the space afforded by our editorial privilege to engage in advocacy. Indeed, even when we do address issues, we most often confine ourselves to laying out the facts, indicating the consequences predicted by the best and most knowledgeable impartial experts, and allowing you, the reader to decide what needs to be done.

Our focus – Audubon's – is on birds. We are happy to be able to state that only rarely do we encounter direct threats to birds in the Americas, although we discuss one below. The threats to birds are most often indirect. By far and away the most important indirect threat is habitat degradation and loss. Not just breeding habitat but wintering habitat, which is often under greater danger of destruction, and migration habitat. Migration stopover habitat is well known to us – it's where we often bird locally – and critically important in our area because it consists of small, often isolated pockets that support temporary, impressive concentrations of migrating birds. Peveto Woods, Sabine Woods, the Willows at Sea Rim, High Island are the local examples. There are few other places in the world where such small areas are so important, because there are few if any places where historical geologic-geographic factors have resulted in a 600-700 mile over-water crossing by so many land based species in such numbers.

Continued local vigilance is necessary. Not too far from us, migrating birds are threatened by wind turbines that are proposed, without any requirement for environmental impact evaluation, in areas that, *prima facie*, are in important migratory corridors in Kenedy County in South Texas. The proposed border fence along the Rio Grande in South Texas – a barrier with a *raison d'être* reminiscent of the Berlin Wall, which we as a nation so rightly condemned – involves clearing a wide swath of the elsewhere vanishing Tamaulipan Thorn-scrub habit only recently restored in some considerable part using tax dollars. No one, especially not the rank and file Border Patrol agents, thinks the fence will have much overall effect on illegal border crossing. It smacks of the Maginot line mentality of the late 1930s. However, it will affect endangered mammal species and will make it difficult, if not impossible, to continue manage and preserve the numerous pockets of habitat that will be in a no-man's land between the proposed route of the fence and the river. Without continual attention to invasive exotics, these pockets will be overtaken by them. The economy of the least well-off part of Texas will suffer greatly in many ways, not least from a drastic reduction in ecotourism.

(continued on p.5)

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Golden Triangle Audubon Society

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information
www.goldentriangleaudubon.org

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Calendar of Events

Thursday August 21. Membership Meeting. Gina Donovan, Executive Director, Houston Audubon Society on conservation aspects of the Neches River. Full details in the next issue.

Refreshments

Each month, we rely on volunteers to provide the refreshments at our membership meeting. We thank those who provided the refreshments at the May meeting. We also thank a number of others who made monetary donations to the refreshment fund, which is used when volunteers are not available. **We need volunteers to bring all items for all fall 2008 meetings.** Please do not wait until the last minute to volunteer! We do not expect one person to bring everything, but please call so we can coordinate! If you can just bring drinks and cookies or something similar, please call Jennifer Armacost at (409) 790-7222 (or email her at armacostj@yahoo.com) **as far in advance as possible.** Please help if you can!

Tentative Fall Field Trip Program.

Aug. 21: Bolivar Flats.

Sep. 27: Smith Point Hawk Watch.

Oct. 18: Sabine Woods and Sabine Pass area.

Nov. 22: West Jefferson County..

Jan. 3: Sea Rim State Park Christmas Count.

Suggestions for other or alternative trips we might consider? Contact Steve Mayes with them!

Memorial Donation

We are grateful to Paul and Norma Rogers for a donation in memory of Eunice Benckenstein.

Volunteer Needed

Our current Membership and Publicity Chair, Joe Halbrook, has asked to retire. We are looking for someone willing to take on this position. The duties involve disseminating information about our meetings and field trips to the local media. We would like to

expand the position to include sending a welcome letter to new members, and providing outreach to potential members.

Sabine Woods

The second place team in the Great Texas Birding Classic, the ConocoPhillips Cranes (Tony Frank, Lynn Barber, Sheridan Coffey and David Sarkozi) has designated a Sabine Woods motte enhancement project for their \$10,000 award. The project contemplates planting oak, hackberry and mulberry trees in the eastern part of the sanctuary, and the budget provides funding for additional water outlets and other miscellaneous needs in addition to purchasing and planting the trees.

Although plans have not yet been finalized, Texas Ornithological Society will likely be looking for a volunteer who can be available to be at Sabine Woods, possibly at relatively short notice, to show contractors what needs to be done, and perhaps undertake other tasks associated with the project. Please contact John Whittle to volunteer.

Subscription Renewal Reminder

Please check the mailing label on this issue. If the date on your label NOT prefixed by "AU" has passed, or there is no other date, please remit your contribution of \$15 to Golden Triangle Audubon Society at P.O. Box 1292, Nederland, Texas 77627-1292. The date prefixed by AU is the date your National Audubon Society subscription expires. Although this contribution towards the cost of the *Brown Pelican* is voluntary for National Audubon Society members living in the official chapter territory, we will appreciate your support. Our official chapter territory is defined by zip codes, but is basically Jefferson, Hardin and Orange Counties and one or two localities close to those Counties.



Earth Share of Texas represents the Audubon Foundation of Texas and the National Audubon Society in payroll deduction plans for charitable giving. For information, call 1-800-GREENTX or email estx@earthshare-texas.org.

Bird Sightings – April 2008

Coverage: Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Tyler, Jasper, Newton, Angelina, San Augustine and Sabine counties. Send Reports to: John Whittle, 3015 Nashville Avenue, Nederland, Texas 77627-6749 by the 10th of the month after or e-mail to john.whittle@lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8276. For "very rare" birds, please submit a brief account of your sighting, including a description of the bird (unless unmistakable), brief details of what it was doing, and where it was seen (if on publicly accessible property). Format: "Common" to "abundant" birds are shown in the fashion "JEF 4 reps(25)" which means four reports in Jefferson County totaling 25 birds. Less than "common", as JEF-SW 7/5(2) ABC", which means seen in Jefferson County (JEF) at Sabine Woods (SW) on the 5th of July, two (2) birds, reported by observer "ABC." The range of dates for which the

species was reported is shown in parentheses in a column before the sighting details or report summaries.

Commentary: As usual, we have had to use the "condensed" and therefore less detailed format for a good number of the whopping 223 species reported in April. Many of these are neotropical migrants, which will be shown in more detail in our annual migration summary in either the August or September issue. In that summary, we will eliminate the "duplicate" reports of what are probably the same birds that are contained in a few – not many – of the summary totals below. Not included below are reports of single female Black-throated Blue Warblers at Sabine Woods on April 19 and 26 that were seen very briefly but not re-found despite immediate intensive searches by many groups present on those days.

WHISTLING-DUCK, Blk-bell	(5-27)	JEF 13 reps(110)	
GOOSE, Snow	(6-6)	JEF 4/6(1) SM	
GOOSE, Canada	(6-6)	JEF 4/6(5) SM	
TEAL, Blue-winged	(12-27)	JEF 10 reps(106)	
MERGANSE, Red-breast.	(12-12)	JEF-TXPT 4/12(8) SM	
BOBWHITE, Northern	(23-23)	HAI 1 rep(1)	
LOON, Common	(13-18)	JEF-TXPT 4/13(1) SM; JEF-PI 4/18(1) SM	
GREBE, Pied-billed	(22-22)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
GANNET, Northern	(27-27)	JEF-MCFW 4/27(1) JAW	
PELICAN, Amer. White	(5-5)	JEF 1 rep(100)	
PELICAN, Brown	(10-23)	JEF 3 reps(47)	
CORMORANT, Neotropic	(10-27)	JEF 10 reps(107)	
CORMORANT, Double-cr.	(12-12)	JEF 1 rep(2)	
ANHINGA	(13-25)	JEF 3 reps(3)	
BITTERN, Least	(18-28)	JEF-MCFW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-MCFW 4/22(2) JAW; JEF-MCFW 4/25(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 4/28(2) JK	
HERON, Great Blue	(10-27)	JEF 7 reps(10)	
EGRET, Great	(5-27)	JEF 15 reps(107)	
EGRET, Snowy	(5-27)	JEF 10 reps(95)	
HERON, Little Blue	(5-13)	JEF 5 reps(7)	
HERON, Tricolored	(5-27)	JEF 13 reps(91)	
EGRET, Cattle	(10-27)	JEF 12 reps(499)	
HERON, Green	(5-28)	JEF 13 reps(34)	
NIGHT-HERON, Black-cr.	(13-27)	JEF 6 reps(7)	
NIGHT-HERON, Yellow-cr.	(13-27)	JEF 7 reps(10)	
IBIS, White	(5-27)	JEF 15 reps(484)	
IBIS, White-faced	(5-21)	JEF 3 reps(26)	
IBIS, Plegadis	(12-13)	JEF 2 reps(22)	
SPOONBILL, Roseate	(5-27)	JEF 12 reps(174)	
VULTURE, Black	(4-27)	HAI 3 reps(17); JEF 10 reps(32)	
VULTURE, Turkey	(3-26)	HAI 5 reps(16); JEF 12 reps(49)	
OSPREY	(8-18)	JEF 4/8(1) SR; JEF-TX87 4/10(1) JAW; JEF 4/12(2) SRJW; JEF-SW 4/18(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-TX87 4/18(1) JAW	
KITE, Swallow-tailed	(16-26)	HAI 4/26(2) DBA; JEF-BMT 4/16(1) CSL	
KITE, White-tailed	(5-18)	JEF 4 reps(5)	
KITE, Mississippi	(10-10)	JEF-BMT 4/10(1) RHJ	
EAGLE, Bald	(26-26)	ORA 4/26(1) SR	
HARRIER, Northern	(5-12)	JEF-SW 4/5(1) SM; JEF 4/6(2) SM; JEF-SW 4/12(1) SM	
HAWK, Sharp-shinned	(5-5)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
HAWK, Red-shouldered	(11-28)	HAI 8 reps(9); JEF 1 rep(1)	
HAWK, Broad-winged	(3-23)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 4 reps(4)	
HAWK, Swainson's	(5-21)	JEF-TX87 4/5(1) RHJ; JEF 4/6(1) SM; JEF-TX87 4/11(1) JAW; JEF-TX87 4/21(1) JAW	
HAWK, White-tailed	(12-23)	JEF 3 reps(3)	
HAWK, Red-tailed	(6-18)	JEF 2 reps(3)	
CARACARA, Crested	(13-24)	JEF-TX87 4/13(1) SM; JEF-TX87 4/19(1) JHH; JEF-MCFW 4/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/24(2) JAW	
KESTREL, American	(5-6)	JEF 2 reps(2)	
MERLIN	(8-26)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 7 reps(7)	
FALCON, Peregrine	(18-22)	JEF 3 reps(3)	
RAIL, Clapper	(11-20)	JEF 5 reps(25)	
RAIL, King	(6-18)	JEF 3 reps(5)	
RAIL, Virginia	(20-20)	JEF-TXPT 4/20(2) SM	
SORA	(12-27)	JEF 8 reps(12)	
MOORHEN, Common	(13-25)	JEF 4 reps(14)	
PLOVER, Black-bellied	(6-27)	JEF 7 reps(63)	
GOLDEN-PLOVER, Amer.	(6-6)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
PLOVER, Snowy	(22-23)	JEF 2 reps(2)	
PLOVER, Semipalmated	(20-26)	JEF 5 reps(15)	
PLOVER, Piping	(23-27)	JEF 3 reps(6)	
KILLDEER	(6-27)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 8 reps(43)	
OYSTERCATCHER, Amer.	(12-13)	JEF-TXPT 4/12(2) SM; JEF-TXPT 4/13(1) SM	
STILT, Black-necked	(11-27)	JEF 11 reps(65)	
AVOCET, American	(13-13)	JEF 1 rep(20)	
SANDPIPER, Spotted	(12-25)	JEF 4 reps(6)	
YELLOWLEGS, Greater	(6-23)	JEF 5 reps(80)	
WILLET	(10-27)	JEF 10 reps(80)	
YELLOWLEGS, Lesser	(6-27)	JEF 9 reps(134)	
YELLOWLEGS species	(26-26)	JEF 1 rep(2)	
SANDPIPER, Upland	(6-23)	JEF 4/6(27) SM; JEF 4/23(8) PW	
WHIMBREL	(6-20)	JEF 4 reps(23)	
TURNSTONE, Ruddy	(20-27)	JEF 4 reps(22)	
SANDERLING	(22-27)	JEF 5 reps(432)	
SANDPIPER, Western	(18-18)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
SANDPIPER, Least	(23-27)	JEF 5 reps(11)	
SANDPIPER, Pectoral	(25-25)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
DUNLIN	(26-27)	JEF 2 reps(2)	
SANDPIPER, Stilt	(23-27)	JEF 5 reps(27)	
DOWITCHER, Short-billed	(20-26)	JEF 2 reps(2)	
DOWITCHER, Long-billed	(26-26)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
DOWITCHER species	(12-26)	JEF 2 reps(22)	
PHALAROPE, Wilson's	(22-28)	JEF 8 reps(38)	
GULL, Laughing	(10-27)	JEF 7 reps(104)	
GULL, Ring-billed	(22-22)	JEF 1 rep(1)	
GULL, Herring	(22-27)	JEF 3 reps(12)	
TERN, Least	(12-25)	JEF 5 reps(26)	
TERN, Gull-billed	(26-26)	JEF-MCFW 4/26(1) JAW	
TERN, Caspian	(22-27)	JEF 3 reps(8)	
TERN, Common	(13-13)	JEF-TX87 4/13(1) SM	
TERN, Forster's	(13-23)	JEF 3 reps(27)	
TERN, Royal	(13-23)	JEF 3 reps(212)	
TERN, Sandwich	(22-23)	JEF 2 reps(84)	
SKIMMER, Black	(25-25)	JEF 1 rep(3)	
PIGEON, Rock	(1-27)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 14 reps(73)	
COLLARED-DOVE, Euras.	(1-29)	HAI 8 reps(17); JEF 7 reps(20)	
DOVE, White-winged	(1-27)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 25 reps(114)	
DOVE, Mourning	(5-30)	HAI 9 reps(57); JEF 15 reps(116)	
DOVE, Inca	(2-30)	HAI 10 reps(30); JEF 1 rep(1)	
CUCKOO, Yellow-billed	(7-28)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 20 reps(62)	

CUCKOO, Black-billed	(21-25)	JEF-SRSP 4/21(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/25(1) JAW		SWALLOW, Barn	(5-27)	HAI 3 reps(10); JEF 17
CUCKOO, Black-billed	(21-25)	JEF 2 reps(2)		reps(140)		
SCREECH-OWL, Eastern	(10-28)	HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 1 rep(1)		SWALLOW species	(25-25)	JEF 1 rep(10)
OWL, Great Horned	(18-18)	JEF-SW 4/18(1) JAW		CHICKADEE, Carolina	(1-29)	HAI 7 reps(15); JEF 14
OWL, Great Horned	(18-18)	JEF 1 rep(1)		reps(15)		
NIGHTHAWK, Common	(20-27)	JEF 10 reps(21)		TITMOUSE, Tufted	(1-29)	HAI 9 reps(28); JEF 2 reps(2)
WILL'S-WIDOW, Chuck-	(11-26)	JEF 6 reps(6)		NUTHATCH, Red-breasted	(5-19)	HAI-SILS 4/5(1) MG; HAI
SWIFT, Chimney	(3-27)	JEF 14 reps(69)		4/19(1) JM		
HUMMINGBIRD, Ruby-thr.	(1-30)	HAI 14 reps(37); JEF 56		WREN, Carolina	(5-29)	HAI 6 reps(21); JEF 10
reps(396)				reps(13)		
HUMMINGBIRD, Black-ch.	(1-1)	JEF-BMT 4/1(1) RHJ		WREN, House	(5-5)	JEF-SW 4/5(1) SM
HUMMINGBIRD, Rufous	(1-19)	JEF-BMT 4/1(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 4/12(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 4/13(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 4/17(1) RHJ; JEF-BMT 4/19(1) RHJ		WREN, Sedge	(12-23)	JEF 4 reps(9)
HUMMINGBIRD species	(3-19)	JEF 2 reps(3)		WREN, Marsh	(12-27)	JEF 8 reps(29)
KINGFISHER, Belted	(5-27)	JEF 4 reps(9)		KINGLET, Ruby-crowned	(1-20)	HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 13
WOODPECKER, Red-head.	(19-29)	HAI 3 reps(3); JEF 1 rep(1)		reps(51)		
WOODPECKER, Red-bell.	(1-29)	HAI 15 reps(25); JEF 2		GNATCATCHER, Blue-gray	(5-26)	JEF 16 reps(71)
reps(2)				BLUEBIRD, Eastern	(1-29)	HAI 12 reps(35); JEF 6
SAPSUCKER, Yellow-bell.	(5-25)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 11 reps(12)		reps(9)		
WOODPECKER, Downy	(5-26)	HAI 2 reps(5); JEF 19		VEERY	(12-26)	JEF 7 reps(16)
reps(21)				THRUSH, Gray-cheeked	(19-27)	JEF-SW 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW
WOODPECKER, Pileated	(1-30)	HAI 7 reps(7); JEF 3 reps(3)		4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/23(1) PW; JEF-SW		4/26(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/27(1) JAW
WOOD-PEWEE, Eastern	(11-28)	JEF 19 reps(46)		THRUSH, Swainson's	(5-27)	JEF 16 reps(41)
FLYCATCHER, Yellow-bell.	(21-26)	JEF-SW 4/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(1) SM		THRUSH, Hermit	(1-1)	JEF-SW 4/1(1) JHH
FLYCATCHER, Acadian	(19-27)	HAI 4/23(2) PW; JEF-SW 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/20(2) SM; JEF-SW 4/26(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(2) SM; JEF-SW 4/27(1) JAW		THRUSH, Wood	(1-30)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 20
FLYCATCHER, Willow	(20-21)	JEF-SRSP 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/21(1) JAW		reps(109)		
FLYCATCHER, Traill's	(11-26)	JEF 4/11(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/25(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/26(1) JAW		ROBIN, American	(1-29)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 13 reps(26)
FLYCATCHER, Least	(12-26)	JEF 5 reps(6)		CATBIRD, Gray	(1-30)	HAI 2 reps(2); JEF 46
EMPIDONAX species	(26-26)	JEF 1 rep(2)		reps(419)		
FLYCATCHER, Gt. Crested	(5-29)	HAI 8 reps(11); JEF 21		MOCKINGBIRD, Northern	(1-27)	HAI 11 reps(42); JEF 14
reps(23)				reps(45)		
KISKADEE, Great	(5-11)	JEF 11 reps(11)		THRASHER, Brown	(5-29)	HAI 5 reps(6); JEF 21
KINGBIRD, Western	(25-25)	JEF-TX87 4/25(1) SD		reps(31)		
KINGBIRD, Eastern	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 36		STARLING, European	(1-27)	HAI 4 reps(61); JEF 14
reps(224)				reps(110)		
FLYCATCHER, Scissor-tail	(6-27)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 11 reps(23)		WAXWING, Cedar	(1-27)	HAI 4 reps(118); JEF 2
SHRIKE, Loggerhead	(10-27)	HAI 2 reps(3); JEF 12		reps(6)		
reps(33)				WARBLER, Blue-winged	(5-29)	JEF 30 reps(115)
VIREO, White-eyed	(1-27)	HAI 2 reps(13); JEF 24		WARBLER, Golden-winged	(18-29)	JEF-SW 4/18(1) JAW; JEF-SW
reps(123)				SW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/19(2) SM; JEF-SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SW		4/26(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/27(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/28(2) JHH; JEF-SW
VIREO, Yellow-throat	(11-26)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 15 reps(16)		4/29(2) JHH		
VIREO, Blue-headed	(5-27)	JEF 14 reps(26)		WARBLER, Tennessee	(1-29)	JEF 38 reps(638)
VIREO, Warbling	(11-26)	JEF 4/11(1) JHH; JEF-TX87 4/11(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/12(1) SRJW; JEF-SW 4/12(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/12(3) SRJW; JEF-SW 4/13(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/14(3) JHH; JEF-SW 4/15(2) JHH; JEF-SRSP 4/18(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/21(2) JHH; JEF-SW 4/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/22(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/22(2) JHH; JEF-SW 4/26(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(2) SM		WARBLER, Orange-crown.	(1-21)	JEF 17 reps(42)
VIREO, Philadelphia	(13-27)	JEF-SW 4/13(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/13(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/18(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/21(1) JHH; JEF-SRSP 4/23(1) CFBP; JEF-SRSP 4/23(1) PW; JEF-SW 4/24(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/25(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/26(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/26(2) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/27(1) JAW		WARBLER, Nashville	(1-24)	JEF-SW 4/1(1) JHH; JEF-SW
VIREO, Red-eyed	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 31		4/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/5(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 4/5(1) SM; JEF-SW		4/6(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/12(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW
reps(123)				4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/24(1) JAW		
JAY, Blue	(1-30)	HAI 14 reps(66); JEF 11		PARULA, Northern	(1-29)	JEF 39 reps(208)
reps(26)				WARBLER, Yellow	(5-29)	JEF 28 reps(282)
CROW, American	(3-29)	HAI 6 reps(15)		WARBLER, Chestnut-sided	(18-29)	JEF 21 reps(148)
CROW, Fish	(3-28)	JEF 8 reps(18)		WARBLER, Magnolia	(19-29)	JEF 14 reps(160)
CROW, species	(10-27)	JEF 8 reps(11)		WARBLER, Cape May	(20-27)	JEF-SRSP 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP
RAVEN, Chihuahuan	(13-13)	JEF-TX87 4/13(1) JSY		SRSP 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/21(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP		4/21(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/27(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/27(1) SM
MARTIN, Purple	(2-26)	JEF 20 reps(209)		WARBLER, Yellow-rumped	(1-21)	JEF 22 reps(157)
SWALLOW, Tree	(3-27)	JEF 21 reps(802)		WARBLER, Y-r (Audubon's)	(5-6)	JEF-SW 4/5(1) JHH; JEF-SW
SWALLOW, N. Rough-wing.	(5-13)	JEF 4 reps(6)		4/5(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 4/5(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/6(1) SM		
SWALLOW, Bank	(25-25)	JEF 1 rep(4)		WARBLER, Black-thr Green	(10-29)	JEF 26 reps(74)
SWALLOW, Cliff	(11-26)	JEF 5 reps(23)		WARBLER, Blackburnian	(11-29)	JEF 4/11(1) JHH; JEF-TX87
				4/11(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/18(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/18(3) SM;		4/11(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/26(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/26(2) SM; JEF-SW
				4/28(5) JHH; JEF-SW 4/29(2) JHH		
				WARBLER, Yellow-throated	(1-19)	JEF 9 reps(11)
				WARBLER, Pine	(3-23)	HAI 1 rep(9); JEF 2 reps(2)
				WARBLER, Prairie	(11-23)	HAI 4/23(7) PW; JEF-SRSP
				4/11(1) JHH; JEF-SRSP 4/12(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/13(1) SM;		JEF-SRSP 4/13(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/23(1) CFBP
				WARBLER, Palm	(6-23)	JEF 10 reps(12)
				WARBLER, Bay-breasted	(20-29)	JEF-SW 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SW
				SW 4/20(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/22(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/25(2) JAW;		JEF-BMT 4/26(1) RHJ; JEF-SW 4/26(13) JAW; JEF-SW
				4/26(15) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/27(3) JAW; JEF-SW 4/27(10) JAW;		

	JEF-SW 4/27(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/28(40) JHH; JEF-SW 4/29(15) JHH	
WARBLER, Blackpoll	(18-29)	JEF 26 reps(111)
WARBLER, Cerulean	(6-21)	JEF-SRSP 4/6(1) ES; JEF-SW 4/11(2) JHH; JEF-TX87 4/11(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/12(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/12(3) SRJW; JEF-SW 4/14(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/15(1) JHH; JEF-SW 4/18(2) JAW; JEF-SW 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/20(1) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/21(1) JAW; JEF-SW 4/21(1) JHH
WARBLER, Black-and-wh.	(1-29)	JEF 36 reps(185)
REDSTART, American	(10-29)	JEF 28 reps(152)
WARBLER, Prothonotary	(1-28)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 35 reps(83)
WARBLER, Worm-eating	(1-29)	JEF 23 reps(68)
WARBLER, Swainson's	(12-23)	HAI 1 rep(6); JEF 6 reps(11)
OVENBIRD	(11-29)	JEF 13 reps(117)
WATERTHRUSH, Northern	(11-29)	JEF 36 reps(197)
WATERTHRUSH, Louisiana	(1-29)	JEF 21 reps(28)
WARBLER, Kentucky	(1-29)	JEF 20 reps(60)
YELLOWTHROAT, Common	(1-29)	HAI 1 rep(2); JEF 42 reps(243)
WARBLER, Hooded	(1-29)	HAI 2 reps(15); JEF 36 reps(215)
WARBLER, Wilson's	(11-12)	JEF 2 reps(2)
WARBLER, Canada	(29-29)	JEF-SW 4/29(1) JHH
CHAT, Yellow-breasted	(11-28)	HAI 3 reps(10); JEF 15 reps(32)
TANAGER, Summer	(1-30)	HAI 2 reps(4); JEF 28 reps(118)
TANAGER, Scarlet	(7-28)	JEF 26 reps(114)
SPARROW, Chipping	(1-27)	HAI-SILS 4/1(40) MG; HAI-SILS 4/2(30) MG; HAI-SILS 4/8(30) MG; HAI-SILS 4/9(20) MG; HAI-SILS 4/10(20) MG; HAI-SILS 4/11(20) MG; HAI-SILS 4/14(30) MG; HAI-SILS 4/16(20) MG; HAI-SILS 4/21(2) MG; HAI-SILS 4/22(2) MG; JEF-SW 4/5(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/27(1) JAW
SPARROW, Savannah	(12-26)	JEF 10 reps(52)
SPARROW, LeConte's	(6-6)	JEF 4/6(1) SM
SPARROW, Nelson's S-tail.	(12-13)	JEF 2 reps(2)
SPARROW, Seaside	(12-26)	JEF 4 reps(20)
SPARROW, Lincoln's	(5-26)	JEF 3 reps(7)
SPARROW, Swamp	(5-12)	JEF 2 reps(2)
SPARROW, White-throated	(1-24)	JEF 22 reps(55)
CARDINAL, Northern	(1-29)	HAI 10 reps(353); JEF 11 reps(21)
GROSBEAK, Rose-breasted	(11-29)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 25 reps(146)
GROSBEAK, Blue	(7-26)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 15 reps(29)
BUNTING, Indigo	(1-28)	HAI 5 reps(6); JEF 38 reps(410)
BUNTING, Painted	(6-25)	JEF-TXPT 4/6(1) SM; JEF 4/11(7) JHH; JEF-MCFW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/18(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/18(1) SM; JEF-SRSP 4/19(1) SM; JEF-SW 4/21(2) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/22(4) JAW; JEF-SRSP 4/23(2) CFBP; JEF-SW 4/25(2) JAW
DICKCISSEL	(12-27)	JEF 8 reps(11)
BOBOLINK	(28-28)	JEF-TX87 4/28(16) JK
BLACKBIRD, Red-winged	(10-27)	JEF 13 reps(190)
MEADOWLARK, Eastern	(12-23)	JEF 3 reps(11)
MEADOWLARK species	(12-22)	JEF 4 reps(5)
GRACKLE, Common	(3-27)	HAI 2 reps(9); JEF 10 reps(49)
GRACKLE, Boat-tailed	(10-27)	JEF 13 reps(80)
GRACKLE, Great-tailed	(3-27)	HAI 6 reps(27); JEF 8 reps(81)
GRACKLE, Gt./Boat-tailed	(13-25)	JEF 4 reps(24)
COWBIRD, Brown-headed	(2-30)	HAI 8 reps(9); JEF 6 reps(32)
ORIOLE, Orchard	(5-28)	JEF 45 reps(619)
ORIOLE, Baltimore	(6-27)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 29 reps(441)
FINCH, House	(2-30)	HAI 5 reps(30); JEF 19 reps(33)
GOLDFINCH, American	(1-26)	HAI 6 reps(33); JEF 15 reps(39)
SPARROW, House	(3-27)	HAI 1 rep(1); JEF 11 reps(46)

Number of Species 223

Number of Individuals 20648
 County Abbreviations: HAI — Hardin; JEF — Jefferson; ORA — Orange

Location Codes: BMT — Beaumont; GROV — Groves; MCFW — McFaddin NWR; NEDR — Nederland; PI — Pleasure Island, Port Arthur; SILS — Silsbee; SRSP — Sea Rim State Park; SW — Sabine Woods; TX87 — Texas 87 Pt. Arthur-Sabine Pass-Sea Rim SP; TXPT — Road to Pilot Station at Texas Point

Observer Abbreviations: CFBP — Carol Ferguson and Brenda Prothro; CSL — Christine Sliva; DBA — David Baker; ES — Elaine Sherman; JAW — John Whittle; JHH — John H. Haynes; JK — Joseph Kennedy; JM — John Mariani; JSY — Josh Sylvest; MG — Melanie Goetsell; PW — Royce Pendergast, John Whittle; RHJ — Rose Ann and Harrison Jordan; SD — Steve Dillinger; SG — Sherry Gibson; SM — Steve Mayes; SR — Sherrie Roden; SRJW — Sherrie Roden, John Whittle;

Notes on Very Rare Species

Chihuahuan Raven – TX82 – April 13 – Josh Sylvest

This bird was located feeding on road kill on Highway 82, 2.7 miles from the causeway to Louisiana. This bird had been seen in the days prior in Louisiana.

Tufted Titmouse -- Sabine Woods –April 10 – John Haynes

An adult bird with extensive black on the face, seen in Sabine woods at 2:30 p.m. bathing in the main pond.

Ringed Kingfisher: On Saturday, April 12, Lynn Otto reported finding a Ringed Kingfisher on Highway 87 about a half mile or so west of Sabine Woods, where there are a few ponds close to the road on the south side. Efforts to relocate the bird were unsuccessful, although a large Kingfisher was seen in the vicinity of McFaddin NWR later that day. On Sunday, April 13 about 1 p.m. a large, silent Kingfisher, flew lowish over the Willows at Sea Rim heading west (but not clear how much west), but could not be relocated despite an extensive search. Sharon Thomas took pictures of a largish Kingfisher along Highway 87, but the pictures do not allow a definitive determination as to whether it was a Ringed Kingfisher or a large female Belted Kingfisher

Editorial (continued from page 1)

Global warming is more insidious. The balance of nature will change. Habitat will change. Some species will gain, some lose. Some species will become extinct, principally as a result of human activity. Unless reasonably economic carbon sequestration can be magically developed overnight, additional coal-fired power plants will greatly exacerbate the problem, to say nothing of the mercury and particulate matter they will emit.

Land use issues, ranging from environmentally insensitive development, draining of important wetlands, destructive "recreational" practices, overly expansive highway construction, unnecessary clearing of understory all threaten to degrade habitat and ultimately the world in which we live.

Solutions to mankind's needs for energy and shelter must be found, but not in ways that threaten to leave the world almost uninhabitable for future generations. Make your voice heard. Help inform your friends and acquaintances about the issues. Make sure your elected representatives know what you want them to do.

2008 Spring Warblers at Sabine Woods

What a spring birding season at Sabine Woods! The great thing was that working people (who work on weekdays) were given a break by having quite a few warbler species on most weekends.* I would like to sincerely thank all the birders who wrote down what they saw at Sabine Woods on our lists, because I know it takes time. I have taken down the lists for this last spring and disaggregated the data to show how nice this spring has been in Sabine Woods. I realize that not every person believes that every one of these species have been accurately listed, but then there are others of us that believe that each person who wrote a warbler on the list actually believed that they had seen it. So with that disclaimer for the unbelievers, here are the warblers that people wrote on the list this spring. Because of limited space in the newsletter, Part 2 of this article will appear in the July/August issue.

There were 35 lists that had warblers between March 5th and April 29th. Days were not necessarily consecutive because some days people either chose not to write on the list, or no one went to the woods that day. These were the warblers that were listed shown in the order they were listed:

Jana Whittle

March 5th

Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned
Black-and-white
Common Yellowthroat

March 8th *

Yellow-rumped
Common Yellowthroat
Orange-crowned
Black-and-white
Louisiana Waterthrush

March 12th

Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned
Black-and-white
Common Yellowthroat
Orange-crowned
Louisiana Waterthrush
N. Parula
Prothonotary

March 16th *

Hooded
Black-and-white
Yellow-rumped

March 19th*

Yellow-rumped
N. parula

March 20th *

Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned
Common Yellowthroat
Black-and-white
N. Parula
Prothonotary
Yellow-throated
Louisiana Waterthrush

March 24th

Hooded

March 28th

Common Yellowthroat

March 29th *

Yellow-rumped
Common Yellowthroat
Blue-winged
Hooded
Prothonotary
Orange-crowned
Black-and-white

March 30th *

Prothonotary
Yellow-throated
Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned

Common Yellowthroat

April 1st

Common Yellowthroat
Orange-crowned
Yellow-rumped
Prothonotary
Black-and-white
N. Parula
Yellow-throated
Louisiana Waterthrush
Hooded
Tennessee
Nashville
Worm-eating
Kentucky

April 5th *

Wilson's
N. Parula
Black-and-white
Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned
Common Yellowthroat
Worm-eating
Hooded
Louisiana Waterthrush
Nashville
Yellow
Tennessee
Blue-winged @willows

April 6th *

Hooded
Orange-crowned
N. Parula
Black-and-white
Yellow-rumped
Prothonotary
Common Yellowthroat
Tennessee
Cerulean @Willows
Kentucky @Willows

April 8th

Hooded
Prothonotary
Yellow-rumped

Worm-eating

Orange-crowned
Louisiana Waterthrush
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow

April 10th

Orange-crowned
Tennessee
Worm-eating
Black-throated Green
N. Parula
Black-and-white
Hooded
Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky
Yellow-rumped
Yellow-throated
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow

April 11th

Cerulean
Bay-breasted
Swainson's
Hooded
Blue-winged
Black-and-white
Tennessee
Orange-crowned
Yellow-rumped Myrtle
N. Parula
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow-throated
Yellow
Yellow-breasted Chat
Black-throated Green
Ovenbird
Blackburnian

April 12th *

Hooded
Blue-winged
Black-and-white
Tennessee
Orange-Crowned
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle)
N. Parula
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Common Yellowthroat
Cerulean
Yellow-throated
Yellow
Palm
Kentucky
Yellow-breasted Chat

Worm-eating

Black-throated Green
Swainson's
Ovenbird
Prairie @Willows

April 13th *

Black-and-white
Prothonotary
Blue-winged
Orange-crowned
Palm
Tennessee
Kentucky
Hooded
N. Parula
Yellow-breasted Chat
Worm-eating
Yellow-rumped
Swainson's
Common Yellowthroat
Black-throated Green
Cerulean
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Yellow-throated @Willows

April 14th

N. Parula
Hooded
Prothonotary
Black-throated Green
Kentucky
Worm-eating
Blue-winged
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Tennessee
Black-and-white
Orange-crowned
Cerulean
Swainson's
Yellow-rumped
Louisiana Waterthrush
Common Yellowthroat
Palm

April 15th

Cerulean
Palm
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow-rumped
Orange-crowned
Kentucky
Hooded
Blue-winged
N. Parula
Black-throated green
Worm-eating
N. Waterthrush

Black-and-white
Tennessee
Yellow-breasted Chat
Prothonotary

April 16th
N. Parula
Yellow-breasted Chat
Hooded
Prothonotary
Common Yellowthroat
Orange-crowned
Worm-eating
Ovenbird
Kentucky
N. Waterthrush
Tennessee
Nashville

April 17th
Orange-crowned
Yellow-breasted Chat
Common Yellowthroat
Prothonotary
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Yellow
Louisiana Waterthrush
Hooded
Blackpoll
Tennessee

April 18th
Tennessee
Hooded
Yellow
Blackburnian
Worm-eating
N. Waterthrush
Black-and-white
Louisiana Waterthrush
Yellow-throated
Common Yellowthroat
Black throated Green
American Redstart
Ovenbird
Blue-winged
Prothonotary
N. Parula
Kentucky
Yellow-breasted Chat
Chestnut-sided
Blackpoll
Cerulean
Yellow @mulberries

April 19th *
Cerulean
Hooded
Golden-winged
Yellow
Common Yellowthroat
Black-and-white
Blackpoll
Black throated Blue (female)
Black throated Green
Blue-winged
Nashville
Prothonotary
Tennessee
Worm-eating
N. Waterthrush
Magnolia
N. Parula
American Redstart
Yellow-throated
Yellow-breasted Chat

Kentucky
Chestnut-sided
Blackburnian
Yellow-rumped
Ovenbird
Orange-crowned
Swainson's

April 20th *
Blackpoll
Golden-winged
N. Waterthrush
Cerulean
Yellow
Magnolia
Prothonotary
Chestnut-sided
American Redstart
Common Yellowthroat
Bay-breasted
Black-and-white
N. Parula
Hooded
Worm-eating
Tennessee
Ovenbird
Blue-winged
Blackburnian
Swainson's
Kentucky
Cape May @Willows

April 21st
Chestnut-sided
Prothonotary
Blackpoll
Yellow
American Redstart
Hooded
Black-and-white
Kentucky
N. Parula
Blue-winged
Yellow-breasted Chat
Tennessee
Common Yellowthroat
Ovenbird
Worm-eating
Orange-crowned
N. Waterthrush
Yellow-rumped
Black-throated Green
Palm @Willows
Cape May @Willows
Cerulean @Willows

April 22nd
N. Waterthrush
American Redstart
Prothonotary
Blackpoll
Blue-winged
Common Yellowthroat
Worm-eating
Hooded
Canada
Magnolia
Yellow
Yellow-breasted Chat
Louisiana Waterthrush
Bay-breasted
Ovenbird
Chestnut-sided
Tennessee
N. Parula @Willows
Palm @Willows
Black-and-white @Willows

April 23rd
Louisiana Waterthrush
Blackpoll
Hooded
N. Waterthrush
Hooded
Nashville
Tennessee
Ovenbird
Yellow
American Redstart
Bay-breasted
Kentucky
Yellow-breasted Chat
N. Parula @Willows
Chestnut-sided @Willows
Palm @Willows
Black-and-white @Willows

April 24th
American Redstart
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow-breasted Chat
Chestnut-sided
Louisiana Waterthrush
Prothonotary
N. Waterthrush
Prairie
Magnolia
Yellow
Worm-eating
Tennessee
Nashville
Blackpoll
Yellow-throated @trees before
Willows ("Ranch Willows")

April 25th
Orange-crowned
Bay-breasted
Common Yellowthroat
Louisiana Waterthrush
American Redstart
Blackpoll
Tennessee
N. Parula
Chestnut-sided
Black-and-white
N. Waterthrush
Black-throated Green
Worm-eating
Prothonotary
Cape May @Willows

April 26th *
Black-throated Green
Chestnut-sided
Blackpoll
Yellow
Bay-breasted
Black-and-white
Blackburnian
Hooded
Golden-winged
N. Parula
Common Yellowthroat
Ovenbird
Kentucky
N. Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Prothonotary
Tennessee
Magnolia
Black-throated Blue (female)
Blue-winged
Cerulean

Worm-eating
Palm

April 27th *
Magnolia
Blackpoll
Yellow
Blackburnian
Tennessee
Chestnut-sided
N. Waterthrush
Bay-breasted
Common Yellowthroat
N. Parula
Worm-eating
Louisiana Waterthrush
American Redstart
Kentucky
Blue-winged
Golden-winged
Black-throated Green
Palm
Hooded
Black-and-white
Cape May
Prothonotary
Cerulean

April 28th
N. Parula
Blackburnian
Black-and-white
Yellow-breasted Chat
Chestnut-sided
Bay-breasted
Yellow
Tennessee
Blackpoll
Common Yellowthroat
American Redstart
Golden-winged
Kentucky
Hooded
Ovenbird
Blue-winged
Worm-eating
Magnolia
N. Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Palm
Brewster's (unconf.)
Prothonotary
Black-throated Green

April 29th
Canada
Golden-winged
Blue-winged
Blackburnian
Bay-breasted
Magnolia
Chestnut-sided
Worm-eating
Blackpoll
N. Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Hooded
Ovenbird
American redstart
Tennessee
Kentucky
Common Yellowthroat
N. Parula
Black-and-white
Yellow
Black-throated Green
Yellow-breasted Chat

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Unfortunately, almost all the local and regional telephone Rare Bird Alerts have been discontinued in favor of various Internet based means of distribution.

The Texas-wide Rare Bird Alert, maintained by Houston Audubon Society, is available on their web-site at <http://www.houstonaudubon.org/> Email alerts are also available for a small fee. Most rare bird sightings in Texas are posted on the TEXBIRDS listserv. The archives of this listserv are at <http://listserv.uh.edu/archives/texbirds.html> It is not necessary to subscribe to the listserv to view the archives, which include postings up to the most recent.

Transcriptions of many current and recent email alerts are available on the Siler's Birding on the Net at <http://birdingonthe.net/hotmail.html> Detailed information (maps and text) on birding sites on the Upper Texas Coast is also available on the Web at <http://www.texasbirding.net..>

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